

Richmond Refinery LPS Alert



Pumped wrong material into vessel



IPS Control: 1951800

Location
Hydroprocessing – South Isomax

Contact Information:
Rudy Basco
2-1225

Reference:
Information



Sodium arsenite & Cleaning agent drums at South Isomax



Cleaning agent drum label



Sodium arsenite drum

Always remember to do your LPSA – because we care about you!

Incident Description:

A South Isomax Area Operator inadvertently pumped a corrosive cleaning agent into the arsenic (sodium arsenite) holding tank. Sodium arsenite is used as a corrosion inhibitor in the MEA system for both Hydrogen Trains. After being pumped to the holding tank, the arsenic is mixed with condensate and routed into the MEA system.

The operator noted there was a new pallet of 4 drums in the area where the sodium arsenite is stored. After removing the shrink wrap around the drums, the operator began to fill up the holding vessel. As the operator was filling the vessel, he noticed an unusual odor.

The arsenic pumping was stopped immediately and the operator found that 2 of the 4 newly delivered drums had labels for a corrosive cleaning agent (the other 2 contained sodium arsenite).

A TOP incident investigation is being conducted.

Immediate Actions Taken:

- 1) Filling of the sodium arsenite holding tank was halted.
- 2) The operator involved their Head Operator and Shift Team Leader.
- 3) South Isomax is working with Hazardous Waste to drain and clean the arsenic holding tank.

What You Can Do:

Think about where the opportunity exists for a similar event to occur in your workplace. Since it will take a bit of time for the TOP investigation to identify the causal factors and corrective actions, here's what you can do now;

- Be on the alert for similar potentials in your work area & check labels on every container (and invoices/bill of lading for truck deliveries) to assure yourself of the material being handled
- Always conduct your LPSA before starting any job, no matter how routine it may be

LOSS PREVENTION SELF-ASSESSMENT

BEFORE BEGINNING ANY ACTIVITY/TASK/JOB, AFTER A LOSS OR NEAR LOSS, ANY UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:



ASSESS the risk!

What could go wrong?

What is the worst thing that could happen if something does go wrong?

ANALYZE how to reduce the risk!

Do I have all the necessary Training and Knowledge to do this job properly?
Do I have all the proper Tools and Personal Protective Equipment?

ACT to ensure loss-free operations!

Take necessary Action to ensure the job is done properly!
Follow written procedures! Ask for assistance, if needed!

DO NOT PROCEED UNLESS ALL RISKS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED!

For Everyone • Every Day • All the Time

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